Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 /101 W

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R 161100Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6534

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, BA, US

SUBJECT: ISRAEL BOYCOTT: ARMSTRONG CO

1. MR. J.W. EVANS, GENERAL MANAGER OF LEGAL SERVICES FOR ARMSTRONG EUROPE SERVICES LTS. OF UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX, UK, CALLED ON CHARGE AUG 15 TO DISCUSS ARMSTRONG'S CURRENT PROBLEMS WITH BAHRAIN BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL OFFICE. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY REP OF LOCAL AGENT, KONTRA. SEVERAL MONTHS AGO LOCAL AGENT RECEIVED QUESTIONNAIRE FROM BAHRAIN BOYCOTT OFFICE WHICH WAS FORWARDED TO ARMSTRONG EUROPE. MR. EVANS HAS ATTEMPTED TO ANSWER THOSE QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO EUROPEAN OPERATIONS AND TO THE GENERAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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QUESTIONS WITH CAVEAT "AS THIS APPLIES TO EUROPEAN OPERATIONS OF ARMSTRONG". THIS PROCEDURE HAS LEFT SOME QUESTIONS PARTIALLY ANSWERED AND ONE, WHICH EVANS FEELS IS IMPORTANT, ENTIRELY UNANSWERED.

2. EVANS SAID THAT DIRECTOR OF BAHRAIN BOYCOTT OFFICE IN DIS-CUSSION WITH LOCAL AGENT HAD BEEN AS HELPFUL AS COULD BE EXPECTED BUT WOULD NOT, NATURALLY, PROVIDE MANY LEADS TO SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM. ARMSTRONG HAD BEEN GRANTED THIRD, AND FINAL, EXTENSION OF TIME TO EXPIRE IN EARLY DECEMBER. IF NO OTHER SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND, EVANS PROPOSED TO ANSWER THOSE QUESTIONS RELATING TO ARMSTRONG'S EUROPEAN TRADE WITH BAHRAIN AND COMPLETELY IGNORE OTHER QUESTIONS. LOCAL AGENT IS AFRAID THAT THIS WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT AS THERE IS INDICATION IN HIS CORRESPONDENCE WITH BAHRAIN BOYCOTT OFFICE THAT CENTRAL BOYCOTT OFFICE IN DAMASCUS IS ALSO INVOLVED.

3. EVANS SAID THAT ARMSTRONG IS WORKING VERY HARD TO AVOID BLACK-LISTING AS MIDDLE EAST TRADE IS VERY IMPORTANT TO COMPANY. ARMSTRONG NOW HAS LARGE SHARE OF BAHRAIN MARKET AND OUTSTANDING RELATION-SHIP WITH BAHRAIN AGENT.
POWERS

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Subject: ISRAEL BOYCOTT: ARMSTRONG CO TAGS: ETRD, BA, US, ARMSTRONG COMPANY

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